Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SHUM, MX

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS SPEECHES

REF: A) STATE 176956 B) MEXICO 11417

1. THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO PERCEIVES HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CONTEXT OF FULFILLING THE GOAL OF ACHIEVING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE FOR ITS CITIZENS. IT FEELS THAT IT CAN BEST DO THIS IN BALANCING A CONCERN FOR LAW AND ORDER WITH PROTECTION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF CITIZENS. THE CONFLICT ARISES WHEN THE SOCIETY IS THREATENED BY TERRORISM. PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO NOTED IN A JUNE 28 PRESS CONFERENCE (REF B) THAT PUBLIC FORCE IS A LEGITIMATE RESPONSE TO TERRORISM AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED REPRESSION. IN DISCUSSING THE OCCASIONAL ABUSE OF CITIZENS RIGHTS BY POLICE, HE EMPHASIZED THAT "THE IMPORTANT THING IS THE LEGAL STRUCTURE THAT MAINTAINS THE POSSIBILITY OF DEFENSE OF THESE RIGHTS AND THAT THIS IS OPEN IN OUR COUNTRY".

2. IN THE CONTEXT OF THE HEMISPHERE, AT THE OASGA MEXICAN AMBASSADOR RAFAEL DE LA COLINA CONDEMNED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND SAID THA THE INVESTIGATION OF THEM BY INTERNATIONAL GROUPS CANNOT BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSIDERED INTERVENTION. COMMENT: GIVEN THE SENSITIVITY OF SOME LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND MEXICO'S TRADITIONAL NONINTERVENTIONIST POLICY, DE LA COLINA'S COMMENTS ARE BOTH FORTHCOMING AND SUPPORTIVE. END COMMENT: LUCEY

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Message Attributes

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